

the date of the election. That will show that the appointment orders were received by these officers sufficiently early.

Another point of attack was that a correction slip was issued on the 14th. A correction slip was necessitated in this way. Some of the officers who were appointed as polling officers made requests that on account of their ill-health or other difficulties they were unable to go and function as polling officers, and so substitutes had to be appointed. Such substitutes have to be appointed even if it is one hour before the polling begins. Every polling station has to be supplied with a polling officer and if one officer is unable to go and function, a substitute has to be sent. Therefore it does not require an answer why this correction slip had to be issued on the 14th. Some of the officers wrote to me that on account of the difficulties, their being in the hospital, in distant places, being invalids, etc., they could not come and do the work. At once, substitutes were appointed and these correction slips—not one, more than one, two, were intended to replace those who were originally appointed. I submit there is absolutely nothing irregular and that no omission or delay was caused in the offices which made arrangements for the conduct of these elections.

Demand put and carried

9—27—2—Printing Paper

10—27—2—Printing Miscellaneous

Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government): Sir, I rise to move the next two additional allotments to-gether. i.e., Rs. 40,000 under "27—2 Printing Paper" and Rs. 1,084 under "27—2—Printing Miscellaneous."

The first is due to the cost of the various kinds of printing paper supplied to the Press from the Stationary Department. During the first 9 months alone this has come up to Rs. 75,176—10—1 against the budget provision of Rs. 45,000. The increase is partly due to the increase in consumption of paper required for printing and supply of special Departmental forms, Registers, Ration Cards, etc. to the Civil Supplies Department, and for printing works done on behalf of the War Publicity and National War Front Departments. There has also been increase in the cost of the various kinds of paper as compared with the cost paid for these items in the previous year. Since the allotment under the head was fixed on the basis of the actuals of the previous years, the enhanced provision now required was not anticipated at the budget time. A sum of Rs. 40,000 more is, therefore, required under the head during the current year.

The other is consequent on the extension of the term of the War Risk Insurance Policy for a further period of 1 year till 1st April 1946, in respect of the Press Building and Machinery. A sum of Rs. 778 is required for the payment of premium to the New India Assurance Co., during the current year. Due to the grant of uniform, etc., allowance to the Police Constables at an enhanced rate, a sum of Rs. 119 was additionally required for this year for payment of contribution to the Police Department on account of pay and allowance of the 3 Police Constables deputed to guard the Press. There has been abnormal increase in the rate of labour charges. The provision fixed under the head towards labour charges in connection with the distribution of printed forms to the various Departments in the State was therefore found quite insufficient. It is now estimated that a sum of Rs. 1,084 more is necessary to meet the required till the end of the year.

I request the House to sanction these additional allotments.

Demands put and carried

11—39—Miscellaneous—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges

Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government): I rise to move an additional allotment of Rs. 1,500 under "39—Miscellaneous—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges." A sum of Rs. 1,515 has to be paid towards advertisement charges and a sum of Rs. 76 is required for payment of grants as financial help. Advertisement charges, namely, relate to the selection of candidates for training in fisheries and for higher technical education abroad. The balance under the head is found insufficient. A further sum of Rs. 1,500 is therefore required for meeting these items of expenditure and also the expenditure for the last two months of the year. This may be sanctioned.

Demand put and carried